

## DEVAL L. PATRICK

July 28, 2006

Chad Calvert  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
Land and Minerals Management  
Minerals Management Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
381 Elden Street, Mail Stop 4042  
Herndon, VA 20164

Re: Scope of EIS for Proposed Cape Wind Energy Facility in Nantucket Sound,  
Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Calvert:

I am a resident of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and am writing about the scope of the environmental impact statement (EIS) for the wind energy facility proposed for Nantucket Sound. The Department's Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for this project appeared in the Federal Register on May 30, 2006.

There is no doubt that we must reduce our dependence on oil and gas, foreign and domestic. Given the rising costs, the instability of foreign supply, the business and household demand in Massachusetts and New England, the compelling environmental hazard of climate change, and the growing concern over energy security, it is clear that we must have a sense of urgency in our efforts to develop alternative and renewable energy sources.

This sense of urgency does not mean we should be careless. I appreciate the importance of a regulatory framework for offshore wind energy facilities, and respect your responsibility to develop that framework. However, as you review this project, it would be a mistake to think you have to start from scratch. This project has been reviewed by 17 state and federal agencies over the course of four years. In November of 2004, the Army Corps of Engineers issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement. I urge the MMS to accept this EIS and other data reviewed by other agencies and not to duplicate in its review issues that have already been adequately addressed by the Army Corps of Engineers and other relevant agencies.

The environmental bona fides of this project have been thoroughly reviewed and studied by the federal government over the course of many years, with great care and at significant expense. Given the urgency of our energy needs, we can not afford to spend more time and money duplicating these efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deval Patrick", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.